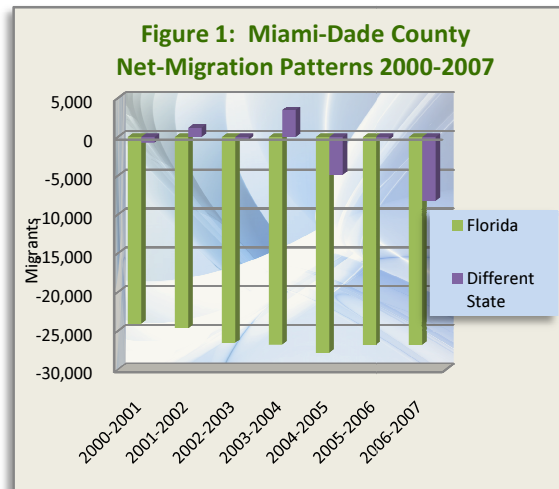# *Domestic Migration Patterns*

The most powerful force shaping Miami-Dade County demographics has been migration. Significant events and conditions have lead to major migration flows into and out of the County. Some of these events have been political, others economic, and most have been a complex combination of both. This edition of *At-A-Glance* takes a look at the magnitude of the domestic flows and the sources and destinations of the migrants.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates migration using IRS exemptions reported on income tax returns. The data is collected by the Internal Revenue Service and shared with the Census Bureau. Tracking the changes in where exemptions are claimed from one year to the next gives an idea of where people have moved. The problem arises when there are no matched returns (marriage or name change) or where no return was filed from one year to the next, (low income workers, elderly, foreign immigrants) and exemptions are missed or not reported, resulting in an undercount. So, these numbers are not reliable estimates of population, but rather, indicate the flows of people into and out of the County and their sources and destinations.

Figure 1: Miami-Dade County Net-Migration Patterns 2000-2007

Source: IRS Statistics of Income Division County to County Migration Data 2000-2007; Prepared by Miami-Dade County DP & Z Research Section.

Figure 1 shows the net domestic migration flows for the County since the year 2000 between Miami-Dade and other Florida counties and Miami-Dade and counties in other States. The stream of people has been overwhelmingly out of the County to other parts of Florida since the year 2000. For the year 2000-2001 the net outflow based on exemptions was 24,044 people (Table 1), increasing to an outflow of 34,628 people by the 2006-2007 year. The average net outflow of people from Miami-Dade

Table 1. Domestic Migration Flows and Net Flow for Miami-Dade County

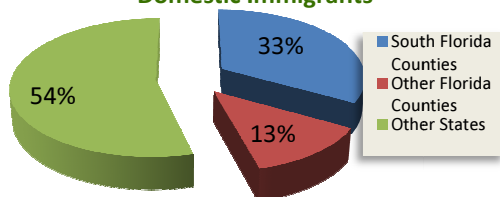|	Source/Destination	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	Total 2000-07	Average	%
Inflow	South Florida Counties	14,407	15,148	16,607	17,326	18,130	18,993	17,619	118,230	16,890	33%
	Other Florida Counties	5,479	5,725	5,886	6,668	6,490	6,928	7,992	45,168	6,453	13%
	Other States	26,424	27,402	26,617	28,461	29,384	28,478	26,303	193,069	27,581	54%
	Total	46,310	48,275	49,110	52,455	54,004	54,399	51,914	356,467	50,924	100%
Outflow	South Florida Counties	31,752	33,241	34,321	34,900	35,121	30,683	29,544	229,562	32,795	43%
	Other Florida Counties	12,200	12,219	14,715	15,817	18,750	21,989	22,876	118,566	16,938	22%
	Other States	26,402	25,506	25,954	24,236	24,953	27,980	34,122	189,153	27,022	35%
	Total	70,354	70,966	74,990	74,953	78,824	80,652	86,542	537,281	76,754	100%
Net	South Florida Counties	(17,345)	(18,093)	(17,714)	(17,574)	(16,991)	(11,690)	(11,925)	(111,332)	(15,905)	-62%
	Other Florida Counties	(6,721)	(6,494)	(8,829)	(9,149)	(12,260)	(15,061)	(14,884)	(73,398)	(10,485)	-41%
	Other States	22	1,896	663	4,225	4,431	498	(7,819)	3,916	559	2%
	Total	(24,044)	(22,691)	(25,880)	(22,498)	(24,820)	(26,253)	(34,628)	(180,814)	(25,831)	-100%

Source: IRS Statistics of Income Division County to County Migration Data 2000-2007; Prepared by Miami-Dade County DP & Z Research Section.

Miami-Dade *At-A-Glance*

between 2000 and 2007 was 25,831 people per year. Sixty two percent of this total was to one of the other South Florida Counties (Broward, Monroe, Palm Beach, and Collier). Almost twice as many people, 32,795 compared to 16,890, moved to one of the four other South Florida counties than moved from one of them to Miami-Dade. Forty one percent of this stream went to other Florida counties, and other states contributed to a 2 percent gain in population to the County.
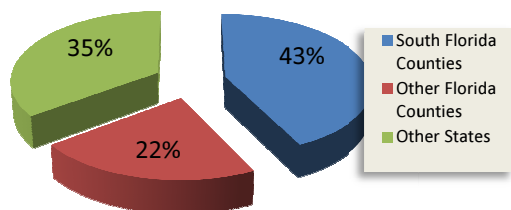
Figure 2. Sources of Miami-Dade Domestic Immigrants

Source: IRS Statistics of Income Division County to County Migration Data 2000-2007; Prepared by Miami-Dade County DP & Z Research Section.

Figures 2 and 3 break down the inflows and outflows of migrants to Miami-Dade. Figure 2 illustrates the sources of immigrants. Over half of the 46,310 arrivals, 54 percent, come from other states. Table 2 below will show the top 25 sources of immigrants, and among these largest of sources, the northeast states of New York and New Jersey jump out. Another fact that jumps out from Figure 2 is that one third of all domestic immigration into Miami-Dade come from the four neighboring counties.

Figure 3. Destinations of Miami-Dade Domestic Out-Migrants

Source: IRS Statistics of Income Division County to County Migration Data 2000-2007; Prepared by Miami-Dade County DP & Z Research Section.

Figure 3 illustrates the destinations of migrants leaving the County. This chart shows that there is a more even split between the destinations. Still, 43 percent of the people leaving the County are remaining in South Florida but moving to one of our four neighbors. Just over one third, 35 percent, left for another state, and 22 percent left for other central and northern Florida counties.

Table 2 shows the top 25 areas of in-migration to Miami-Dade County broken down by counties within Florida and those in other States. New arrivals came from more than 375 U.S. counties, but the top 25 accounted for approximately 59 percent of the total.

Table 2. 2000-2007 County to County Domestic Migration Inflow to Miami-Dade County: Top 25

State	County	Total In-Migration	Average Annual In-Migration	Percent of the Total
S.FL	Broward County	97,492	13,927	27.8%
S.FL	Palm Beach County	12,132	1,733	3.5%
FL	Orange County	8,381	1,197	2.4%
FL	Hillsborough County	6,330	904	1.8%
S.FL	Monroe County	5,024	718	1.4%
S.FL	Collier County	3,582	512	1.0%
FL	Lee County	3,320	474	0.9%
FL	Duval County	2,772	396	0.8%
FL	Leon County	2,609	373	0.7%
FL	Pinellas County	2,144	306	0.6%
FL	Alachua County	1,990	284	0.6%
		145,776	20,825	41.5%
NY	Queens County	8,694	1,242	2.5%
NY	New York County	7,810	1,116	2.2%
NY	Kings County	6,071	867	1.7%
CA	Los Angeles County	5,772	825	1.6%
NJ	Hudson County	5,298	757	1.5%
NY	Bronx County	4,871	696	1.4%
IL	Cook County	4,777	682	1.4%
FR	Foreign - Puerto Rico	3,867	552	1.1%
TX	Harris County	3,140	449	0.9%
NY	Nassau County	2,416	345	0.7%
NJ	Bergen County	2,201	314	0.6%
MA	Suffolk County	2,073	296	0.6%
CA	San Diego County	2,044	292	0.6%
NJ	Union County	2,006	287	0.6%
		61,040	8,720	17.4%

Source: IRS Statistics of Income Division County to County Migration Data 2000-2007; Prepared by Miami-Dade County DP & Z Research Section.

Miami-Dade *At-A-Glance*

Broward County, far and away, was the top contributor. A total of 27.8 percent of all arrivals came from Broward. Four of the top six sources were the above mentioned South Florida Counties and combined, accounted for 16,890 in-migrants per year on average. Among the non-Florida counties, 6.4 percent came from the New York trio of Kings, New York, and Queens Counties.

Table 3. 2000-2007 County to County Domestic Out Migration from Miami-Dade: Top 25

State	County	Total Out-Migration	Average Annual Out-Migration	Percent of the Total
S. FL	Broward County	190,497	27,214	35.5%
S. FL	Palm Beach County	24,239	3,463	4.5%
FL	Lee County	16,935	2,419	3.2%
FL	Orange County	16,315	2,331	3.0%
FL	Hillsborough County	12,394	1,771	2.3%
S. FL	Collier County	10,164	1,452	1.9%
FL	St Lucie County	5,597	800	1.0%
FL	Osceola County	5,491	784	1.0%
FL	Duval County	5,387	770	1.0%
FL	Polk County	5,355	765	1.0%
FL	Brevard County	4,730	676	0.9%
S. FL	Monroe County	4,662	666	0.9%
FL	Marion County	3,926	561	0.7%
FL	Volusia County	3,522	503	0.7%
FL	Seminole County	3,509	501	0.7%
FL	Pinellas County	3,481	497	0.6%
FL	Alachua County	3,245	464	0.6%
FL	Leon County	3,239	463	0.6%
		322,688	46,098	60.1%
CA	Los Angeles County	5,252	750	1.0%
NY	New York County	5,100	729	0.9%
TX	Harris County	4,165	595	0.8%
FR	Foreign - Puerto Rico	4,073	582	0.8%
GA	Gwinnett County	3,738	534	0.7%
NY	Queens County	3,641	520	0.7%
IL	Cook County	3,427	490	0.6%
		29,396	4,199	5.5%

Source: IRS Statistics of Income Division County to County Migration Data 2000-2007; Prepared by Miami-Dade County DP & Z Research Section.

Table 3 shows the top 25 destinations of out-migration from Miami-Dade. In all there were more than 340 counties receiving population from Miami-Dade from 2000-2007, 66 percent of which went to one of these 25. Again, Broward was the overwhelming leader here receiving 35.5 percent of the total. On average, 27,214 residents move from Miami-Dade to Broward every year. Another 5,581 migrate to Monroe, Collier and Palm Beach Counties collectively. In total, Miami-Dade sends 32,795 out-migrants to the other four South Florida Counties, and when subtracted from the 16,890 in-migrants noted above, results in a net average annual outflow of 15,905 people. The non-Florida recipients of Miami-Dade migrants are, though far fewer than in Table 2, much more far-flung than seen in Table 2. Every region of the Country is represented, Los Angeles being the largest, receiving just 1 percent of the total, the others close behind including 2 in New York City receiving an in-migration of approximately 1,200 persons per year on average.

Conclusion

Miami-Dade is an international location with a majority of its population foreign born. The immigration flows that have led to rapid population growth in the past remain a major component of its continued growth. On the other side of migration flows, domestic migration due to the larger outflow of households remains a net loss to Miami-Dade County. About two-thirds of this domestic migration is to and from other counties within the state, and over half of this is between Miami-Dade and Broward Counties. Workers and their families can freely move from one county to another and commute to work in these South Florida counties with relative ease. The questions for further analysis, then, are: why is the principal direction of this residential flow out of Miami-Dade to other places? Does Miami-Dade serve a role as primarily the economic center, while the other Counties are primarily bedroom communities? Or, are there structural, social, or cultural issues that make Miami-Dade less desirable for existing residents? Are these merely problems in perceptions or real concrete issues?